

## City of Cincinnati Board of Health Finance Committee

## Tuesday, August 18, 2020

Dr. Bhati, Chair of the Board Finance Committee, called the August 18, 2020 Finance Committee meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

## Roll Call

**Members present:** Amar Bhati, chair, Robert Brown, Edward Herzig, Robert Hall, Domonic Hopson, Phil Lichtenstein, Melba Moore.

Topic	Discussion	Action/Motion
Approval of Minutes	The Chair asked the Committee members if everyone had the opportunity to review the minutes from the last meeting.  Motion: That the Board of Health (BOH) Finance Committee approve the minutes of the July 21, 2020 Board of Health Finance Committee Meeting.	Motion: Herzig Second: Hopson Action: Passed
Introduction of New CHD Finance Director	Dr. Bhati introduced Mr. Robert Hall, the CHD's new Finance Director. Mr. Hall provided background information.	
Review of Contracts for August 25, 2020 BOH Meeting	The Chair began the review of the contracts that will go to the Board of Health (BOH) for approval.  Hamilton County Public Health – This accounts payable grant supports the Regional Cities Readiness Initiative Grant (CRI) coordinator as part of the regional funding structure where all Local Health Departments (LHD) in the Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) contribute a share of the coordinator's contract managed by Hamilton County Public Health. The MSA health departments are Brown County, Butler County, City of Cincinnati, Clermont County, Hamilton County, and Warren County. The Coordinator supports the planning activities and deliverables each LHD is responsible for submitting to Ohio Department of Health for their individual CRI grants. The contract amount is for \$6,647.00 with a term from 7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021. The contract sheet initially listed the termination date as 6/30/2020.  Mr. John Dunham walked the Committee through the contract and answered questions. All local health departments in the Regional Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) metropolitan statistical area (MSA) contribute	

to the regional coordinator now based in Hamilton County Public Health. The position has been a great assistance to all the LHDs. Effort is focused on bio-terrorism response and allows coordination of the pods. Coordinator assists with the exercises.

Mr. Brown asked if the Health Collaborative used to provide the coordination function? Mr. Dunham stated that the current coordinator position used to be based in the Health Collaborative, but it was recently moved into Hamilton County Public Health.

The Chair asked how long we had the contract with its current responsibilities? Mr. Dunham said it was since 2003. The Chair asked for clarification about the pods. Mr. Dunham replied that the grant requires CHD to locate pods – there are six school-based pods in Cincinnati and CHD shares one with Norwood – where anyone can come and get any medication required during an emergency.

Discussion followed regarding COVID-19 vaccination messaging for the minority community and flu vaccination for the public. It was agreed that there will be a presentation on both the COVID-19 and flu vaccines for the BOH and CCPC board.

<u>Motion</u>: That the Board of Health Finance Committee recommend approval with the correct termination date.

**Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) –** This accounts receivable grant is for City Pop Up COVID-19 Testing. The grant amount is for \$75,000.00 with a term of 8/4/2020 to 11/4/2020.

Mr. Hopson walked the Committee through the contract and answered questions. He stated that CHD would like to take a deeper dive in what we can do to support those impacted by COVID-19 in our clinics and on the public health side. Following this, he will bring back to the Committee another contract to partner with Children's Hospital who has the expertise to take this to the next level.

Dr. Herzig asked that the contract sheet specifies popup testing. Mr. Hopson said that while popup testing is included, also included in the proposal is uncovering disparities among minority populations. The purpose is to look at those with COVID-19 and those at high risk for contracting the virus and determining how CHD can help resolve the disparities issues amongst our clinical patients plus those with chronic diseases. It was agreed that soon, Dr. Grant Mussman would report on our efforts regarding those patients with chronic diseases.

<u>Motion</u>: That the Board of Health Finance Committee recommend approval.

**JoAnne DeGregg, LLC –** This accounts payable contract will allow CHD to retain Dr DeGreg on a part-time basis will allow the health department to avoid the expense and uncertainty of hiring a new

Motion: Herzig Second: Hopson Action: Passed

Motion: Bhati Second: Herzig Action: Passed

	physician for her patients and will allow Dr. DeGreg to continue to provide night and weekend on-call services.	
	Under this contract, Dr. DeGreg would provide physician services on a part-time basis at Price Hill Health Center at a 0.5 FTE equivalent from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021 and will be eligible for renewal at that time. The amount of the contract is to not exceed \$ 91,800.80 per year, which maintains her current hourly rate, with a term of 9/1/2020 to 8/31/2021.	
	Dr. Mussman walked through the agreement and answered questions. Dr. DeGreg is an internist who has been with the City for 28 years. She is eligible to retire at the end of August. She would like to conduct part-time hours as a contractor after her retirement. She would be working an average of 20 hours a week. 16 hours one week, 20 hours the second with the rest of the time for documentation time.	
	Dr. Camile Jones stated that previously, the work around for physicians wishing to continue working after retirement, it was managed through a temporary agency. Mr. Hopson stated that this agreement was reviewed by the Law Department.	
	Discussion followed on practice management and increasing productivity.	
	Motion: That the Board of Health Finance Committee recommend approval.	Motion: Brown Second: Herzig Action: Passed
Phamily	Mr. Hopson stated that we have received a proposal from Phamily. However, it was recommended that until the Law Department has an opportunity to review the proposal that it not be presented to the Committee. The Chair asked if the Law Department has an idea of when their review would be complete? Mr. Hopson stated that given how backed up the Law Department is, it may be three months or so.	
Financial Update	Mr. Hopson stated that we were hoping that we hit our rock bottom in May, and it looks like that's the case. In March, April, and May we have provided telehealth visits due to COVID. However, the systems were not yet set up to provide payment for those visits until July, which is why our July numbers – during COVID – are larger than our July figures from last year. Our patients are now more comfortable about coming into the clinics. With schools reopening we plan on expanding our footprint into the schools.	
	Our uninsured patients are higher than we would like it to be.	
	Behavioral health has a much smaller number of uninsured and so they are covering their own expenses.	
	Dr. Herzig asked what happens to the charges for uninsured patients? Mr. Hopson stated that most of those charges get written off. HRSA	

	requires FQHC to make every effort to recoup costs. Even if we collect \$60,000, that is the cost of a medical assistant.  AR is trending down.  Mr. Hall updated the dashboard.
Review Action Items	<ol> <li>Provide breakdown from Medicaid maximization between dental and medical. Of the total breakdown, \$1.7 million went to medical and \$1 million went to dental. School-based dental received around \$300,000. But our school-based medical was negative on our cost report leaving dental shorted \$300,000. Next year we'll look at how to prevent this.</li> <li>Update Committee on home health progress. September.</li> <li>Report back to the Committee on data from Voice of Your Customer anti-tobacco media campaign. Campaign stalled and we have no analytics. September.</li> </ol>

Meeting Adjourned 4:46 p.m. Next Meeting September 15, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. Minutes prepared by Jon Lawniczak